SOUTH VIET NAM *In Struggle*

SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION INFORMATION COMMISSION

3rd year

No 40

July 15, 1969

ADDRESS:
HT 1217 B-SN
C/O
FRONALI PHNOM-PENH
Samdech Pann, Phnom-Penh
CAMBODIA

★

DAZIMINA HANOI
19 Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN
and other South Viet Nam NFL Missions in foreign countries

Architect HUYNH TAN PHAT
President of the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam

Lawyer NGUYEN HUU THO
President of the Presidium of the CC of the NFL
President of the Advisory Council

● In South Viet Nam, People's revolutionary power from village to province levels continues to be licked into shape.

From June 15 to July 7, 1969, Vinh Long, Bac Gia Dinh, Bien Hoa, Soc Trang, Bac Lieu, Thu Duc, Long Thanh, Binh Tuy, An Giang, provinces held people's representative Congress to elect their People's revolutionary power committees.

The People's revolutionary power committees in Da Nang city and 6 other towns (Thu Dau Mot, Ca Mau, My Tho, Vinh Long, Rach Gia, Tay Ninh, Vi Thanh) were set up at the same time.

People's revolutionary power of 10 villages in Bien Hoa province and of 10 districts in other provinces has also been set up.

All told, up to July 14, 1969, the People's revolutionary committees have been established in:

— 1,290 villages
— 146 districts
— 37 provinces (out of a total of 44 provinces)
— 5 cities

SIX MONTHS' SUCCESSFUL AND FIERCE FIGHTING

The PLAF Command has issued its 15th Special Communique dated July 5 which gives details on the South Viet Nam revolutionary armed forces and people's substantial successes in the first half of 1969:

(Special Communique of the South Viet Nam PLAF Command)

"In the first six months of 1969, the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces assaulted the enemy continuously, vigorously and all-sidedly, thereby further accelerating the march of the revolution, and recording all-round successes hitherto unknown.

Our people and armed forces, however, foiling the sinister design of the enemy and defying untold hardships and sacrifices, continued dashing forward, inflicting a due punishment on the enemy.

They rose up and struck in almost all the cities and towns, provincial capitals and townships. Nearly all the one hundred headquarters of the enemy from regimental level upwards came under fire. Onslaughts were mounted again and again on about fifty important airfields and big logistical complexes, and very heavy losses were caused to the enemy.

Virtually all the crack units of the US-puppets-satellites were hit. Many divisions or regiments took great losses, such as the 25th Infantry Division, the Americal Division, the 1st Air Mobile Cavalry Division, the 101st Airborne Division, the 1st Marine Division, and the 11th Motorized Regiment of the US, and the 2nd, 18th and 22nd Divisions and the Paratroop Division of the puppet army.

Many brigades and regiments either lost their combat capacity or were badly battered, such as the US 196th, the 198th and the 3rd Airborne brigades, the 3rd Brigade of the US. 25th Infantry, the 43rd, 48th and 52nd Regiments of the

(*Continued on page 4*)

The gloves are off

NIXON has been in office for six months, and 25 plenary sessions have been convened at the Paris Conference. Yet peace is still far remote and the war in South Viet Nam becomes fiercer every day.

Six months ago, Nixon declared with all the solemness of the occasion in his inaugural address, "The greatest honor history can bestow is the title of peacemaker... Let's take as our goal: where peace is unknown, make it welcome; where peace is fragile, make it strong; where peace is temporary, make it permanent." What words! What promises!

And in the past six months, Nixon has never run short of words to gloss over his "good will" and his "desire for peace". If one takes him at his word, one would think he is an authentic "peacemaker."

Also in the Presidential race, in Oct. 1968, Nixon criticized Johnson for the quagmire which has mired the US for four years in South Viet Nam. More than half a year later, on June 19, 1969, the International Herald Tribune pointed out that events since the Midway meeting had proved that the Nixon administration, too, had run into a big snare in Viet Nam. The question is not, the paper continued, whether Nixon can make any step toward peace, but whether or not he can get off the beaten track and embark on the road of settlement. One can, therefore, safely conclude that very critic of Johnson has also landed in a blind alley. Small wonder is this remark by many an American: Nixon must have lost his plan for a Viet Nam "settlement" somewhere on his way to the White House.

Indeed, in the past six months Nixon has given no indication of a real effort to live up to his promise.

A question arose right at the first meeting of the four negotiating parties in Paris. How to end the war?

As has consistently pointed out by the delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation formerly and the delegation of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government at present, as the aggressor, the US must put an end to its aggression, and since it has introduced its troops and troops of its satellites into South Viet Nam, it must pull all of them out without condition. This is the key to a peaceful solution of the South Viet Nam issue. Other questions, such as the presence of Vietnamese forces in South Viet Nam and the exercise of the South Vietnamese people's right of self-determination, concern Viet Nam only and will be solved by Vietnamese parties without US interference. There is no other more reasonable and more logical approach to the question. These demands stem from nothing else than the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, and conform to the legitimate aspirations of the American people and the world's peoples in general. They entirely meet the most cogent imperative now—to put an end to the savage war of aggression in South Viet Nam and restore peace in Viet Nam. Such a proposal, on the part of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government obviously indicated their enduring desire to help the Paris Conference on.

For its part, the Nixon administration has again and again declared that it will not withdraw unilaterally, and that it needs a position of strength. At the Paris Conference, its delegates have tirelessly pressed for "mutual withdrawal" and the "restoration of the DMZ". They have declared continued US support for the Thieu-Ky-Huong administration even though they have been forced to speak of the "self-determination" of the South Vietnamese people. It is therefore no surprise that the Paris talks cannot move a inch forward, with such a stumbling block in its way one more proof of Nixon's breaking of the pledges made in his inaugural address.

Nixon is not satisfied with putting a spanner in the wheel of the Paris Conference. He also wants to play for time to maintain "maximum military pressure." Despite his denial of any escalation of the Viet Nam war, the Johnson war has become his own war. For all his pledge that he would end the war in the right manner, it is unmistakable that he has been continuing Johnson's policy—to maintain military pressure on the battlefield while conducting negotiations in Paris. Indeed, Defence Secretary Melvin Laird has instructed Gen. Abrams to go on with military operations. In the past six months the number of terror raids, aircraft sorties and the tonnage of poisonous chemicals used in South Viet Nam have sharply increased. On June 21 alone US aircraft of various kinds made five thousand sorties, transporting thirteen thousand puppet troops to various operation theatres, and dropping thousands of tons of bombs including 4,000 — and 7,000 — pounders. This was but one of the one hundred and eighty-odd days past in South Viet Nam when Nixon was applying what was termed by Melvin Laird as the "to maintain military pressure on the adversary" policy.

It is quite natural that the SVN people's resistance grew in proportion to US pressure. Knowing how to exercise with efficiency their sacred right to self-defence, they cannot help continuing to enforce this inviolable right of theirs. In the past six months, they have made the stubborn aggressor pay for his "military pressure" tactics — 330,000 enemy troops wiped out, 3,950 aircraft of various kinds shot down or destroyed on the ground, and 15,500 military vehicles reduced to scrap iron.

The heat generated by the tropical battlefield and the demonstrations in New York streets have made Nixon's chair too hot for him. He has ordered the withdrawal of 25,000 troops, and Battalion 3/60 of the US 9th Infantry Division has been sent off at the Tan Son Nhut airport. This was a new attempt of Nixon to cool down the heat from outside. But what Nixon is reaping falls far short of his expectations. Troops of the above-said battalion bitterly complain that only the battalion flag has been taken home. Indeed, 814 men of that battalion have been transferred to other units to yet begged down deeper in the swamps of South Viet Nam. All this farce has prompted Senator Mc Govern to say that "so long as we cling to our military policy of maximum pressure and our political embrace of General Thieu the negotiations in Paris are a sham and a delusion." This delusion has been dragged on by Mr. Nixon for six months now, during which he has earned, besides a lengthening list of war dead, a reputation as a sham "peacemaker" and an authentic warmaker. So, there is every reason for one to ask if Nixon can ever leave the beaten track and embark on the road of settlement. That road has been opened for him for quite some time; but he has not taken it. It is the complete and unconditional withdrawal of US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam so that the South Vietnamese people may settle their own affairs. Let Mr Nixon take care. The American public has taken off its gloves.

THIEN LY

"Bring the GI's home", urge American demonstrators

It's just another fraud

Nguyen Van Thieu made public "a peace message" in a press conference in Saigon last July 11. The same day, Richard Nixon praised Thieu in a statement, not forgetting to emphasize his own "desire for peace".

Very obviously, the US President wanted to make believe that there was something new in Thieu's action and he had had no hand in it. Press secretary Ziegler, however bluntly revealed that there had been a large exchange between the White House and Saigon in preparation for Thieu's message. Anyhow, Thieu could not have chosen another course of action than harping on the absurd and arrogant position taken by his boss in his May 14 speech. Nixon, one remembers, demanded: "mutual troop withdrawal", the holding of elections under the control of an international Commission" and the renunciation by the Vietnamese people to "armed force and threat" in exchange for their participation in the elections. Moreover, inspirited by his master's crafty move, Thieu cynically declared his "readiness to meet the National Front for Liberation to discuss an election schedule".

Thieu's "message" itself unmasks him as a traitor and a criminal. While broad social strata in South Vietnamese towns and cities sternly condemn him, he clings to the aggressor and thwarts their aspirations for independence, peace and neutrality. He wants to detain the US expeditionary corps for continued occupation of and trampling upon the South Viet Nam land and further massacres of his South Vietnamese fellow countrymen.

Nixon's July 11, statement which hails and supports Thieu's message spells out his utter stubbornness and cunning, as an aggressor. It unmistakably shows that, despite his humiliating setbacks the US President persists in denying the South-Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and is recklessly carrying on the US neo-colonialist war of aggression. It betrays his desperate effort to maintain the rotten Thieu-Ky-Huong administration, and oppose the just, reasonable and sensible position of the NFL and the PRG of the RSVN in the settlement of the South Vietnamese problem to help restore peace in Viet Nam.

"Elections under the control of an International Commission" advocated by Nixon and his agents at a time when 600,000 US and satellite troops are stepping up the war to a new high, when Thieu-Ky-Huong invoking the 10-68 fascist law and by means of "Operation Phoenix" are intensifying repression and murdering of patriotic and peace-loving fellow countrymen of the occupied zone, are nothing more than a blatant manoeuvre of the Nixon government to protract the aggressive war and consolidate its neo-colonialist rule on the verge of disintegration in South Viet Nam. Moreover, any proposal from Thieu who came to power by fraudument elections is not worth consideration. As pointed out by the Delegation of the PRG of the RSVN at the Paris Conference in its July 11, Communique", the people and PRG resolutely expose the tricky move of the Nixon government and Thieu-Ky-Huong administration, traitor to the nation.

Nixon will waste his time trying to deceive and placate indignant world opinion and US progressives now strongly up against him. So long as his government refuses to end the aggressive war, unconditionally withdraw all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs as has been proposed by the NFL, 10-point overall solution, they, together with progressive Americans and peace- and justice-loving people the world over, will go on protesting and castigating him.

No deception, no perfidy and no dragonade can possibly save the American aggressors and their henchmen from total defeat in South Viet Nam.

editorial

Fifteen Years of Gruelling and Successful Fighting

FIFTEEN years to a day have elapsed since the signing of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. Though only a short span of time in the history of a nation, it has witnessed incredible sufferings and unusual feats of the SVN people.

Scheming to turn the South Viet Nam into a US military base and neo-colony, and to perpetuate its partition, the American imperialists started the most ruthless war of aggression in history against our people. They have escalated it rung after rung in both parts of Viet Nam, committing no end of atrocious crimes: armed intervention, "special war" and "limited war" in the South, air and naval war of destruction of growing fierceness in the North, coupling it with intensified intervention and aggression in Laos and constant threats to the Kingdom of Cambodia's independence and neutrality.

With formidable array and devastating modern weaponry and by means of war expansion and most heinous genocide, the Yankee invaders expected to trounce the Vietnamese people into submission. History over the past fifteen years has instead recorded their repeated dismal setbacks, each more humiliating than the one before.

The SVN people and armed forces have successively frustrated the US imperialists' armed intervention, "special war" and "limited war". The resistance forces have been ceaselessly consolidating and expanding. The emergence of the National Front for Liberation (Dec.20, 1960) as the organizer and leader of the resistance was a turning point in our fight against US aggression, for national salvation. Since then our people and armed forces, to a man, have been combating with admirable heroism and increasing success, their strength ceaselessly growing in the process. Since Tet 1968, then since Tet 1969, series of their relentless, simultaneous and successful offensives and uprisings, have dealt thick and fast blows at the enemy right in his political and military sanctuaries, fortified bases and nerve centres.

The all-round achievements in the first half of 1969 recently summed up by the PLAF command, mark a new development of the South Vietnamese revolution with its unusually sweeping waves of onsets and insurrections. They testify to the boundless capabilities of people's war which commands a great, sustained and very effective offensive power. Efficiently combining our military, political and diplomatic actions, we have thrashed the adversary and held him at bay on all theatres. In this process, the military and political forces of the South Vietnamese people have increased their numerical and fighting strength. All the three categories of the PLAF—regular army, regional troops, and militia and guerillas—have experienced a steady growth, a more balanced deployment and a substantial rise in their offensive effectiveness. The political forces, both in the liberated zone and in the enemy-controlled areas have never ceased progressing. The coming into existence of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces represented a new advance in the strengthening of the broad national union bloc. The awakening to national consciousness of many members of the puppet army and administration has generated a sizable disbandment of the former and a rapid disintegration of the latter at the grass-roots levels. Since Tet 1968, we have achieved successes unknown so far in terms of adverse troops wiped out and war means destroyed, as well as in the recovering of power for the people and the developing of the resistance forces. The patriotic movement in urban centres have also made a step forward, thereby further enlarging our national united front against US aggression. And so, the balance of forces has been visibly tilted in our favour and to the detriment of the enemy.

As a result of the far-reaching successes won in all fields, under the glorious patriotic banner of the NFL, an extensive liberated zone has taken shape, covering four-fifths of the territory. There a people's revolutionary power has been established, one which truly represents the aspirations and interests of the masses. Production, cultural, educational and health work and information keep progressing. The groundwork of a genuinely independent, free and democratic regime has been laid. The formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN was an inevitable sequel of the people's revolutionary struggle in South Viet Nam, and the culmination of the process of setting up revolutionary power.

As an upshot, the US aggressors and their henchmen have met with heavy failures and no end of difficulties: they find themselves in a total deadlock, in internal and external affairs, not only in Viet Nam but in the United States and the world as well.

Throughout the last fifteen years, people attached to peace, liberty and justice in every continent have come out unequivocally for us. Given their warm support to our people's just combat, it is safe to say that not a day has passed without ebullient mass meetings against American aggression in one or another part of the world, even in countries having diplomatic relations with Washington. Right in the United States, people from all walks of life have stood up against their government's atrocious aggression, in defiance of terror and repression.

The movement of the world peoples against US aggression, in support of the Vietnamese people has steadily grown into a wide international front. It has gained in breadth and depth and taken on ever more lively and diverse forms. In a very short time following its formation, over a hundred national and international organizations have welcomed the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN and its Program of Action. They regard it as the authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people and voice support for its position. More than twenty governments have recognized it and several have established diplomatic relations with it. Never has the "Support Viet Nam" drive reached such a high nor the "prestige" of the US sunk to such a low.

Our resistance during the past fifteen years to the most wicked enemy in history has been an immortal epic of the South Vietnamese people and of the Vietnamese nation as a whole. The successes achieved at the cost of so many harships and sacrifices all through that time have been due to the sound revolutionary line and the heroic fighting spirit and traditional dauntlessness of our people. They have been possible thanks to the unity of the fourteen million South Vietnamese, of the thirty-one million Vietnamese throughout the country. They have been also the makings of the sympathy, valuable support and lofty international solidarity of many friendly governments and peoples around the world.

Under the impact of its serious setbacks, US imperialism was compelled to stop the bombing and strafing of North Viet Nam and to sit at the Paris conference table with the representatives of the PRG of the RSVN and the Government of the DRVN. But it has not made up its mind to give up its aggressive design on South Viet Nam.

Since coming to power the Nixon administration has not only been pros-cuting the US aggressive war, it has even been intensifying it. It has increased US troop strength and war spending, and stepped up "mopping-up" operations, bombings, toxic-chemical sprayings, pacification actions and the herding of the population into disguised concentration camps. Nixon and his associates are bringing the current war to an unheard-of degree of fierceness, in a bid to secure a "position of strength" on the battlefield and at the conference table as well. They are striving their best to maintain the corrupt Thieu-Ky-Huong administration and to reinforce the Saigon army in their attempt to "de-Americanize" the war, which, in essence, boils down to carrying on the aggressive war to impose its neo-colonialist rule on South Viet Nam.

At the Paris conference, though the NFL delegation formerly and the PRG of the RSVN delegation, now, proceeding from a sound position and a goodwill attitude, from the SVN people's legitimate aspirations and interests, has proposed a fair and sensible ten-point overall solution, the US still sticks to its absurd "mutual troop withdrawal" claim to shirk the key problem, i.e., the unconditional pull-out from South Viet Nam of all US and other troops belonging to countries of the American side, and respect for the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people. Washington's position as a stubborn aggressor and its intention to achieve and preserve neo-colonialism lie at the root of the stalemate of the Paris conference after twenty five meetings.

US war escalations and obstinacy thoroughly expose the hypocrisy of its professed "desire for peace" and "respect for the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination". They prove that the Nixon administration is venturing deeper into a tunnel with no end in sight. The only honourable way out for it is to stop aggression unconditionally, withdraw all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs, without US interference. This door to peace has been opened wide by the NFL ten-point overall solution. To obdurately oppose the settlement of the above key problem, the Nixon administration cannot but embark in a more inextricable impasse bristling with dilemmas and unsurmountable difficulties, one which will lead it straight to the abyss of defeat.

The people of South Viet Nam, who have been fighting perseveringly and valiantly during the last fifteen years and adding new outstanding feats of arms to their national history, will not shrink from whatever difficulties, determined to bring their resistance to US aggression, for national to total victory.

The present situation is most favourable to us. Turning to full account the factors of victory, the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces are resolved to brave all hardships and sacrifices and march ahead to build an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Viet Nam, pending the peaceful reunification of the country.

SOUTH VIET NAM

Oh ! What fine weather !

Water colour by **Le Lam**

SIX MONTHS'...

(Continued from page 1)

puppet 18th Division, the puppet 2nd Ranger Inter-Group, the 42nd Regiment, the 3rd puppet Paratroop Brigade, etc. Many mercenary units, like "Black Tiger" Division of Thailand, were heavily depleted.

Many roads and waterways vital to the enemy were seriously threatened, on which many major convoys were intercepted and wiped out.

One of the most outstanding exploits of the people and their armed forces was the destruction of an important part of the enemy's manpower and war materials. According to still incomplete data, they took a toll of 330,000 enemy troops among them more than 145,000 US and satellite troops. A great number of these were officers, pilots and military technicians.

In terms of units, we wrote off the muster-roll or heavily decimated ninety battalions or battalion-sized units and ten armour groups of the US-554 companies of US, puppet and satellite troops and eighty-seven "pacification" teams.

Enemy material losses included:

3,950 aircraft shot down or wrecked on the ground,

10,500 military vehicles among them 6,000 tanks and armoured cars destroyed,

1,150 war vessels, 30 of them of ten thousand tons or more, sunk or shot ablaze,

1,690 cannons and heavy mortars blasted to pieces,

650 depots of petrol or ammunition burned down, and more than 300 bridges blown up.

As compared with the corresponding period last year, enemy losses in men, armoured vehicles, big guns, depots and war vessels were much greater.

We also won very *big political gains.*

The political consciousness of the people, whether in the town, the countryside or mountain areas, was greatly enhanced, hence their stronger belief in final victory and their more resolute struggle against the enemy. The culminating political struggle swelled the ranks of the armed struggle with fighters from the masses, who have been operating right in the towns and surrounding areas liquidating cruel enemy agents, breaking the enemy grip and taking control of enemy territory bit by bit, while helping the combatants at the front.

Despite the war, revolutionary power swiftly and steadily expanded. Most of the provinces and districts and the majority of the villages throughout South Viet Nam have had their People's Revolutionary Committees.

A great event in the first half of this year was the holding of the Congress of People's Representatives which gave birth to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. This was a victory of historic significance of the South Vietnamese people.

On the *diplomatic plane*, the 10-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has enlisted warm support from wide sections of the people at home and abroad, and from US progressives.

The recognition of the government by 23 countries in Europe, Asia and Latin American and the establishment of diplomatic relations at embassy level with several of them spelled out this widespread and warm support given by the fraternal countries and the peace-loving people throughout the world to our resistance to US aggression, for national salvation. It is a great encouragement to our people now standing in the forefront of the struggle against US aggression, to fulfil our national and internationalist duty, namely to defeat the US imperialists on the Viet Nam battlefield, as a contribution to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in the world.

"The puppet administration has become ever more rotten. The communique continued. Its ranks are split by a power struggle which takes place among men whose subservience to the US imperialist has been brought out in bolder relief. As a result, its isolation has grown more critical while our people have been making more resolute efforts to overthrow it.

Although the US aggressors have done everything to conceal their new military reverses, the war protest of the American people and anti-war sentiment US troops in South Viet Nam have been growing, which has added to the US ruling circles' difficulties.

The US aggressors want to use the Paris Conference on Viet Nam as a screen for their double game. They have protested their "respect for the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination", their 'readiness' to keep wide open the door to peace, etc. But the whole world has seen their hypocrisy, and is indignantly insisting that they put an end to their violence and withdraw all their troops from South Viet Nam.

In addition to the staggering blows they received in the first half of this year, Nixon and Co are faced with new uncompoundable differences: among various American monopolist groupings, between the ruling circles and the American people, between the US and the puppets, and between the US and its satellites.»

The communique went on:

"The great all-round successes recorded in the first six months of this year have enhanced our people and armed forces' confidence in their certain victory, and their determination to fight till complete victory. At the same time, they have further raised our prestige and position at home and abroad, further split the enemy ranks and won more sympathy and support from the peoples and governments of any countries in the world, including the American people.

In all its history, never has our country performed more marvellous feats of arms as now, nor our people's traditional heroism bloomed so magnificently as now.

The fiercer our struggle, the closer the unity of our people whether in the North or in the South, who will rush forward to fulfil sacred duty to their Fatherland. The more bombs and shells the enemy pours on us, the stronger our people's determination to fight US aggression and save the country.

Even in areas still under the enemy's control, our people have heightened their revolutionary consciousness. In growing numbers, they have taken the side of the revolution. Many men of the puppet army and administration, awakened to the sense of justice and revolution, have become disgusted with the US — puppets' rotten regime. Many have gone over to the people.

Overseas Vietnamese, too, are turning their thoughts to the Fatherland, and following with keen interest the successes of their compatriots at home. They are doing all they can to contribute to the nation's final victory.

In the world at large never has Viet Nam command so much attention and never has she received so vigorous support.

All this has engendered for us a new position, a new military posture, a new international status, which are likely to lend more brilliance, to our future achievements.

The past six months, obviously, have marked an important, steady, all-round advance, and a rapid development of our armed forces and people now nearing the fundamental objectives of their revolution.".

PLAF in hot pursuit of the enemy

A DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL POWER

THE SVN LIBERATED ZONE AND REVOLUTIONARY POWER TAKE SHAPE IN THE COURSE OF THE SVN PEOPLE'S SUCCESSFUL ANTI-US RESISTANCE.

TWENTY four years ago the overthrow of the fascist, colonialist and feudal rule and the August Revolution heralded the emergence of Viet Nam revolutionary power, and thus an age-old dream of the Vietnamese people came true.

For the last fifteen years, the USA has been carrying out an intervention and aggression in SVN, in an attempt to turn it into a neo-colony and to perpetuate the partition of VN. It has been breaking the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, illegally installing there an utterly ruthless regime at its beck and call, in an effort to wipe out all gains of the August Revolution and all traces of revolutionary power.

It has committed over half a million US expeditionary troops and mercenaries from US satellites and over half a million puppet soldiers to the most atrocious war of aggression in history. It has been challenging the Viet Nam people's sacred national rights and accumulating crimes of the darkest dye against the South Vietnamese.

In continuation of their tradition as an indomitable nation possessed of a 4,000-year old history of combat against foreign aggression coupled with national construction, and as a sequel to the nearly 100-year anti-colonialist struggle of the Viet Nam people as a whole the South Vietnamese rose up, millions inspired with a single purpose, to recover independence, freedom and peace. In their stubborn fight organized and led by the SVN NFL, and fearless of all hardships and sacrifices, nothing succeeds like success.

In the course of their victorious struggle, the SVN liberated areas and revolutionary power have been shaping up, expanding and consolidating. This has been an objective development called for by the needs of the resistance and the interests and aspirations of the people.

Basic structures of revolutionary power like revolutionary mass organizations, various bodies in charge of military affairs, security, economy, finance, information, culture, education, health, social welfare etc... were set up and put into operation. In the light of the Front's lines and policies, village self-management committees elected by the people successively emerged and in cooperation with the Front's Committees and Peasant's associations of the corresponding level assumed official functions, impelled the resistance forward, built up, reinforced and defended the countryside and looked after the people's well-being. In those places, power belonged to the people who were in a position to exercise their right as masters of their own fate.

Since early 1968, as a result of the electrifying waves of widespread offensives and uprisings, a further expansion and strengthening of the free zone and its revolutionary power has been brought about. To translate into reality the Front Central Committee's "Shatter enemy rule, regain power for the people" watchword people's revolutionary committees have been established at village, district and provincial levels, in the universal exultation caused by combat successes.

Such achievements would be unthinkable if it were not for the South Vietnamese people and armed forces' increasing military gains. Reversely the latter cannot be separated from the former. And the former as well as the latter would not have been possible without popular unqualified confidence in the Front, widespread support for it, universal approval and strict implementation of its political program. In the fulfilment of its historic mission as rallying, organizing and leading force, the Front has discharged its state responsibilities with distinction, and proved itself to be the genuine and legal representative of the SVN people.

THE PRG OF THE REPUBLIC OF SVN, GENUINE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SVN PEOPLE.

RECENTLY, a SVN People's Congress decided to set up the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of SVN and of an Advisory Council to the said Government. Such a step was prompted by the new juncture, the unbending will for independence and freedom of the South Viet Nam people, the most cherished aspirations of the people from all walks of life. It will make it possible for all patriotic forces to take their share of revolutionary power, expand and increase the people's right as masters of the land, bring to completion the network of revolutionary power erected in the greatest part of SVN, turn to full account the successes already gained and march toward total triumph.

The establishment at this moment of the South Viet Nam PRG invested with the most centralized and highest powers represents a tremendous achievement for the South Viet Nam people. It is an inevitable sequel to the emergence of revolutionary power and the most concentrated and forceful expression of the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination and resolve to exercise their sacred national rights.

The coming into being and objectives of the PRG are consistent with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and the norms of modern international law which respect and preserve the peoples' national and self-determination rights and oppose outside aggression against, and intervention in the affairs of, other countries.

As far as its origin, structure and goals are concerned, the PRG's genuinely democratic character is left in no doubt. This is brought out in bolder relief by the resolution of the June 8, 1969 Congress which provides for the eventual enlargement of its composition and creation of additional departments for representatives of groupings in the population not in a position as yet to partake in the management of State affairs, and by the new Government's June 10, 1969, 12-point program of action.

With the said development, revolutionary power in South Viet Nam has become a full-fledged truly effective one because of its broad and firm bases and is in control of the greatest part of South Viet Nam territory, whose area and population keep growing in the countryside, mountains and towns. Its bases are broad for it has been set up in almost all South Viet Nam plains, and mountains including ethnic minority areas like Tay Nguyen, Tra Vinh, Soc Trang, or religious sectors like Tay Ninh, An Giang. Even in disputed and enemy-controlled zone, including cities, revolutionary committees have emerged. Up to June 30, 1969, 1200 villages, 140 districts, 32 provinces and 4 cities among which Saigon, have been placed under revolutionary rule. It is also broad because it has achieved and consolidated the national united Front which rallies people from all social segments in the anti-US resistance for national salvation.

It is firm because it has been set up from the grass-roots level, from the hamlets and villages through the districts and provinces to the centre by universal suffrage and by these qualifications for eligibility: good combat record, dedication to the people and confidence of the people.

Thus, in the new historical context, the PRG takes over from the NFL the management of State affairs, as genuine and legal representative of the SVN people. There is no wonder that within a few weeks of its birth, it has been recognized by tens of countries, has established diplomatic relation with many states, has been given support by dozens of national and international organizations including American bodies and by a host of public figures all over the world and in the US, and its President Architect Huynh Tan Phat has been received with all the honours due to a head of government, and awarded the highest Khmer order, by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The emergence of the PRG of the SVN Republic and its widespread warm reception again throws a lurid light on the unrepresentative and traitorous nature of the Saigon regime which, from the brutal Diem administration to the present corrupt and fire-eating Thieu-Ky-Huong triumvirate, owes its survival solely to US dollars, weapons and troops.

There is no doubt that with the unqualified confidence of the people and vigorous backing of the brother countries and progressives in the world, it will discharge honourably its historic mission.

LE BA

IN LIBERATED AREAS

Pharmacist Phuong Hong uses a make-shift method to prepare an antibiotic well known in Viet Nam as Subtilis

● At present, there are in Western South Viet Nam, 1945 general education schools of the 1st degree and 15 of the 2nd degree (including 100 schools of Khmer Nationals) run by 2523 teachers. They are actively helping 70,000 pupils get ready for the coming school-year.

● Preparing for the "Defeat US aggression" 1969-70 crop, the people of Western South Viet Nam are zealously working their fields, expanding the area under cultivation and increase the number of crops.

In Ca Mau the people have reclaimed and restored to culture nearly 20,000 hectares, and turned 9,500 hectares of one-crop land into two-crop land.

In Rach Gia, the peasants have worked out a plan to boast two-crop area to 13,000 hectares. An Bien district alone has put back 5,000 hectares under grain. Long My district (Can Tho province) has increased its cultivated land to 40,000 hectares (twice the usual acreage).

● At present, in every village in South Viet Nam liberated areas there are a Medical committee, a Medical station with 3 to 5 emergency beds, run by 3 or 8 medical workers. Some villages in Mo Cay district (Ben Tre province) boast of an assistant doctor.

In the disputed "hamlet strategic" and "strategic ward" areas, liberation medical stations have been set up to help the people.

Now, in South Viet Nam, for every 100,000 people there are 5 doctors, 15 assistant doctors and over 100 nurses and attendants.

The jungle flower

Water colour by I.E I.AM

IN single file, they trudged up the muddy and slippery slope. The line stretched like a long string from the bottom of the valley up to the peak of the mountain. For those who were in the middle, bulky knapsacks perched on belt backs were looming overhead and cloth hats ensconced on heads stooped down were appearing behind. Their faces were red with weariness.

An order ran from mouth to mouth:

"Quicken the step! These parts are not safe!"

The column ploughed their way through an apocalyptic landscape. Here the B52 had churned up the jungle, baring blood-red laterite. There the vegetation stunted by toxic chemicals wore a gray mourning, the charred trees thrusting their twisted and torn up branches into the clouds.

The Liberation fighters sweated profusely. They had their gun slung over the shoulder, some of them an automatic rifle. Hand grenades, food-bag and water-bottle hung at their belt. At each step, the two sacks of rice, the shovel and the pick-axe tied to the pack swung with the satchels of petard and the cartridge belt dangled on their sides.

Thang, the head of the column, looked now and then at his wrist-watch and glanced at the slender figure of Phuoc, the liaison girl. She led the way at a good pace. Her pony-tail rhythmically swayed on her nape. Her rucksack leapt on her back each time she strade a tiny stream, a cleft or knotty roots.

Bitter words burst out:

"Let us have a little rest! We walked all through last night..."

"There has been no halt the last two hours! We are ahead of schedule".

"Slow down please!"

"Look here, we have still a long way to go, you know".

No answer. The pace was not slackened. Gradents got steeper and steeper. They seemed endless. Knitting his dark everybrows, Thang grumbled:

"Good Heavens! Liaison people have the right to set the pace indeed, but this one is piling it on. At this speed she will walk all my men off their legs, and some of them are ill at that".

Striding along, he catched her up:

"I say, could you let the men have a short break?". "This stretch is often hit by bombs and rockets", Phuoc turned round and gently replied. "The halts have been already fixed. I can't alter them."

"I know", he retorted, "But don't you see that we are worn out?"

"I can't help it, chief".

There was a ripple in the column.

"Not that we dread hardships", somebody tried to reason with the girl," for we have been hiking month after month from one front to another. But we must save our strength for an opportune moment."

Another gave a whimper, like a child:

"By Jove! My knees are giving way".

Phuoc, however, kept up her pace.

*

In the heavy silence of the mountain, one heard the panting breath of the men.

Even the liveliest of them were now as dumb as fish.

Thang clung to the tree-roots lest he should tumble down the slope. His eyes brightened up at the sight of a spring, the crystalline water of which swirled around multiform rocks.

"There is water here", he said to Phuoc hopefully. "We halt, don't we, comrade? Just to let the boys have a snack".

"The place is not safe, chief. Let us push on a little farther".

The chief gave the ghost of a piteous smile. Containing himself with great difficulty, he retorted:

"There is no safe place on the battlefield, comrade Phuoc. If we take a rest, how can we carry on our march to-morrow? We have not only this trip to do like you!".

The girl's eye-lashes rapidly flapped as if to beat back a tear.

His body clammy with sweat, his back and his sides gnawed by his pack, pistol, water-bottle, Thang felt shaky on his legs and the ground seemed to give way beneath his feet.

At last exhausted, he showed one of his knees to the guide: "This is the scar of a wound I got during the last resistance war (against the French colonialists-Ed.). My legs are no longer as solid as yours. So are those of many in my unit. Do you realize that?".

She replied in a voice touched with emotion:

"Chief, I have lived here long enough to know that this calm is deceiving. Enemy planes come many times a day to strike at this route at the least-expected moment, even at night.

Therefore..."

"I know", he snapped her up. "Any battlefield is dangerous.

But you are overdoing it all the same".

This he regretted at once to have said, especially before his men.

The girl bit her lips but remained impassible. Her bright and moist eyes looked straight in front of her.

*

By two p.m., the column reached camp. Immediately there rose a confusion. The fighters dumped their packs and equipment on the soaked ground littered with dead leaves. Still out of breath, they called to one another, cracked jokes, swore oaths and shouted.

"The mischievous fairy has taken it out of us all," jeered another.

"My feet have got chapped," added a third. "Really she is made of stone".

All of a sudden, the men turned toward Phuoc.

"What? There she starts off again after leaving us to the care of the camp chief. What a girl!" exclaimed somebody.

"We set off at six to arrive here at two p.m.. Even if she takes short cuts and forced-marches, she will not reach our starting base before eight p.m.," reckoned another.

The slim figure was already plodding on the muddy path.

However, the chattering went on. Why was the girl in such a hurry? She would do well with a night of rest.

"She may have a date. Ah, the youth!" insinuated somebody.

Twilight came with its shadows falling from the canopy. Rain spread its dripping mantle over the mountain. Under the roomy tents, the fighters rocked in their hammocks. Outside, the wind howled wildly. The forest seemed to roar in the darkness. In the muttering of the rain, the heavy sound of B-52s was suddenly heard, followed by thundering explosions. Stiffened in their hammocks, the fighters stood on the alert, ready to jump into the nearby shelter.

Draped in a square of nylon, the station chief came and asked the leader of the unit to get his men far from the tall trees.

"Where do you think they are dropping their bombs?" queried Thang.

"Probably on the section you have gone across. The cannons boom also in this direction. What luck you started off early."

By dawn, one heard less and less explosions of bombs and shells. But the wind blowing in squalls kept on shaking the trees and the rain continued to fall in sheets from a leaden sky.

At five thirty, the fighters were awakened by a long whistle blow. The rustling of leaves and the thumping of foot-steps in the mud indicated the presence of a column nearby. As a matter of fact, an infantry unit called at the station. The men were soaked through, their faces and hands as white as linen. Their uniforms were dripping wet. They had marched all through the night.

"Phuoc! our Phuoc is with them!" remarked somebody behind Thang.

The girl was easily recognized from her little figure and her nimble gait. Her jacket and her black trousers stuck to her tiny body. Her beautiful hair was a sprinkled with mud. Her oval face which seemed emaciated kept, however, two clear and bright eyes. She held a bouquet of jungle flowers with rosy petals and golden-spotted scarled stamens.

To the first comers she gave a discreet smile from her coral-red lips.

"Miss Phuoc, comrade...." They exclaimed in a moving tone.

"You are untiring like a carrier pigeon," praised a fighter. She blushed and moved away.

"Yes, she is a tireless carrier pigeon," said the commander of the new-coming unit while putting his pack on a tree-trunk laying on the ground. After giving a sigh of relief, he turned towards Thang and the men gathered around him:

"Last night, no sooner had we gone to bed than we received the order to start off at once. The only liaison agent available was down with fever. The camp chief could not leave his post.

Then our comrade Phuoc came back, drenched and bespattered with mud. The chief playfully asked her:

"A bad trick of the B-52s, isn't? You nearly got buried alive, did'nt you? Why didn't you stay here for the night?

"We are so understaffed here I was afraid that an emergency job might crop up and embarrass you. And I also wanted to pick up some wild greens to improve our diet."

He then asked to take her place as guide for our column.

"No, no. Leave it to me," she objected. "I know these parts very well. You must stay home for wounded men may come."

Not waiting for the answer, she ran off and made a fire to boil some manioc. The camp head followed her with compassionate eyes:

"You may set your mind at rest when Phuoc guides you," he said proudly to us." She is as quick as a squirrel. Each day she covers at least twice this dangerous section and smiles all the way to and fro.

Thunder storms in the forest, bombs exploding at ten metres from her, manioc throughout the month, nothing can dampen her mood.

Wagging his head with admiring glances in his eyes, the officer went on:

"He is right, the comrade. We saw Phuoc at work last night. Each time the B-52s struck or shells fell, she showed great firmness and foresight as a leader."

A young fighter called to Phuoc:

"Please let me have my bag, comrade."

As she hurried to give him back his outfit, he thanked her eagerly:

"Without your help, I don't know how I could drag along with a limping leg."

"I am used to carry a load on my back while marching, she gently answered. It helps keep my balance".

But a burst of laughter made her blush.

A whistle signal resounded. The new-comers dispersed to have a rest in their hammocks. Sitting on a flattened rock, Phuoc began eating her manioc with a little salt. While chewing it, she picked up some dry leaves with which she wiped off the blood which was oozing from several bites of leeches on her calves and feet.

Thang stared at her, attentively following her movements. From time to time he pulled his hair as if he was displeased with himself. At last he rose to his feet and came up to her. She smiled at him and invited to take a bit of her food.

Thang felt abashed. Looking at the jungle flowers laid near the girl, he asked:

"What do you do with these flowers, comrade Phuoc?"

Tonight our Labour Youth group will admit a new member. This bouquet is for that occasion. At our camp flowers are scarce, while on my trip one often comes across these pretty flowers which grow near knotty roots. They look frail but stand the most violent storms and showers.

Thang felt somewhat relieved at hearing her talk so openly.

"Comrade Phuoc," he said in a faltering voice, "yesterday I was a bit rude to you. I even thought evil of you. I hope you are not cross with me, aren't you?"

She shot a look of obvious astonishment at him with her eyes clear as crystal:

"Why should I? Besides, how can one be cross with men who fight the Yankees and the traitors?"

Somebody came and reported to Thang that his unit was ready to march off. He shook the girl by the hands and, very moved, he said resting his eyes on the bouquet:

"Good-bye and thank you, jungle flower!"

DUONG THI MINH HUONG

Army - carriers on the way to the front

A new documentary film:

"Going up the line"

In an exultant atmosphere the South Vietnamese armed forces and people mount widespread offensives and continuous uprisings. Hundreds of thousands of civil volunteers follow on the heels of the Liberation fighters. Day and night, wave after wave, they bring weapons, munitions and food to the front. They walk with vigorous strides, rain or shine, despite shells and bombs. They have to avenge their families and their Fatherland. They are determined to defeat the American aggressors to re-conquer freedom and happiness, to give peace to their beloved country.

Young cameraman Heng Chi of Liberation Studio accompanied a unit of civil volunteers on its way from the immense marshy and lotus-covered Plain of Reeds to artillery emplacements from where enemy bases were pounded. He shot 900 metres of film, vividly depicting this epic march in his 3-reel documentary. With a deep sense of realism and lyricism he shows the life full of revolutionary optimism of those who use every means at their disposal to supply the front with food and ammunition, walking through limitless riverfields and defying enemy posts.

Mother Tu, uncle Sau Hanh, Khang, Nguyen Thi Cam, Muoi Quit, Tran Van Xich, Muoi Thai Ut Niem, Van... ... appear on the screen as quiet, good-natured, sincere, intelligent and valiant men and women peasants who, side by side with their kith-and-kin, help PLAF onsets on the enemy in his last ditch.

IN THE LIBERATED ZONE

WAR-TIME EDUCATION IN CAN THO

Night has fallen. A light breeze whispers in the leaves of the coconut palms, and the splash of oars is heard in the canal. On the road running along P.H. village in Can Tho province, torchlights flicker. The torches assemble before a thatch cottage. There are people of all ages, and their clothes still smell of the mud of the ricefields. A moment later, from inside the cottage come voices reciting the poem:

Last year glorious were our victories.

This year still bigger ones will certainly be won at the front!

In another cottage across the fields from it, there is a lively, festive atmosphere. The cottage stands on the bank of the canal and lights are mirrored in its waters. In a corner of the house, about ten middle-aged people sitting on the earthen floor are learning to read, while in another corner other people are bent over their copy-books and a group of children are studying arithmetics.

On the other bank of the canal, a class is also being held for people of the Khmer minority.

As has now become customary, classes of popular education come alive at sunset. Hardly has the light of the sun died down when in the liberated countryside the fire of the revolution brings the light of culture to people of all nationalities — Viet, Khmer, Chinese — who have broken loose from the enemy's concentration camps, the "strategic hamlets"; Uncle Ba Hoa, who had been a farm hand all his life until the revolution gave him land, comes to class every evening with joy in his heart to study in company with his children; Old Soc, of the Khmer minority, who had been robbed of his land by cruel agents of the Saigon administration, lights a torch every night to go to school where he is a good student in spite of his dim sight; Sister Hong, a Chinese resident, is now able to read the newspapers fluently and learn new songs; she never misses a class...

Formerly, when the region was under enemy occupation, there were only a few people in the whole village who could read and write. Now that the strategic hamlet has been destroyed, and the peasants given land, the people can eat their fill and also study. "Let's study, for our own sake and for the sake of the revolution"—such words spring from the bottom of their hearts.

In P.H. village, there are also 45 classes of the first level (primary) and six of the second level (junior secondary), where the children are nearing the end of their term. On the bank of the river, in the midst of a coconut grove, stands a thatch cottage, with a national flag hung over a sign: "Tay Do Second-level School". All classes are filled to capacity. The pupils come from the village, and also from the provincial capital of Can Tho and the district centres of Vi Thanh, Long My and Phung Hiep, which are occupied by the enemy: children simply boycott enemy-run schools and come here to study.

The schools in the liberated area are built in the flesh of the Americans and their puppets. They have left no stone unturned to destroy them. So much so that many a school has had to be rebuilt four or five times in a year. In some, all furniture having been burnt down by napalm, the children just sit on the earthen floor. In many, teachers and pupils hold class close to the entrance to air raid shelters.

Visitors to schools in the liberated area of Can Tho will be struck by this characteristic sight: both teachers and pupils have rifles close at hand, leaned against their writing desks.

"Let's fight the Yanks and their puppets, and let's fight ignorance too!"—such is their watchword. Even under enemy bombs and shells, education in Can Tho has made important headway and has overcome hard trials. The "accelerated pacification" program of the enemy for 1966-67, then 1968-69, has been foiled, and the light of culture has come to the villages and hamlets.

Nguyen Van Troi school of the 1st degree

Water colour by **Trang Phuong**

SIX MONTHS'...

(Continued from page 1)

puppet 18th Division, the puppet 2nd Ranger Inter-Group, the 42nd Regiment, the 3rd puppet Paratroop Brigade, etc. Many mercenary units, like "Black Tiger" Division of Thailand, were heavily depleted.

Many roads and waterways vital to the enemy were seriously threatened, on which many major convoys were intercepted and wiped out.

One of the most outstanding exploits of the people and their armed forces was the destruction of an important part of the enemy's manpower and war materials. According to still incomplete data, they took a toll of 330,000 enemy troops among them more than 145,000 US and satellite troops. A great number of these were officers, pilots and military technicians.

In terms of units, we wrote off the muster-roll or heavily decimated ninety battalions or battalion-sized units and ten armour groups of the US, 554 companies of US, puppet and satellite troops and eighty-seven "pacification" teams.

Enemy material losses included:

3,950 aircraft shot down or wrecked on the ground,

10,500 military vehicles among them 6,000 tanks and armoured cars destroyed,

1,150 war vessels, 30 of them of ten thousand tons or more, sunk or shot ablaze,

1,690 cannons and heavy mortars blasted to pieces,

650 depots of petrol or ammunition burned down, and more than 300 bridges blown up.

As compared with the corresponding period last year, enemy losses in men, armoured vehicles, big guns, depots and war vessels were much greater.

We also won very *big political gains.*

The political consciousness of the people, whether in the town, the countryside or mountain areas, was greatly enhanced, hence their stronger belief in final victory and their more resolute struggle against the enemy. The culminating political struggle swelled the ranks of the armed struggle with fighters from the masses, who have been operating right in the towns and surrounding areas liquidating cruel enemy agents, breaking the enemy grip and taking control of enemy territory bit by bit, while helping the combatants at the front.

Despite the war, revolutionary power swiftly and steadily expanded. Most of the provinces and districts and the majority of the villages throughout South Viet Nam have had their People's Revolutionary Committees.

A great event in the first half of this year was the holding of the Congress of People's Representatives which gave birth to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. This was a victory of historic significance of the South Vietnamese people.

On the *diplomatic plane*, the 10-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has enlisted warm support from wide sections of the people at home and abroad, and from US progressives.

The recognition of the government by 23 countries in Europe, Asia and Latin American and the establishment of diplomatic relations at embassy level with several of them spelled out this widespread and warm support given by the fraternal countries and the peace-loving people throughout the world to our resistance to US aggression, for national salvation. It is a great encouragement to our people now standing in the forefront of the struggle against US aggression, to fulfil our national and internationalist duty, namely to defeat the US imperialists on the Viet Nam battlefield, as a contribution to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in the world.

"The puppet administration has become ever more rotten. The communique continued. Its ranks are split by a power struggle which takes place among men whose subservience to the US imperialist has been brought out in bolder relief. As a result, its isolation has grown more critical while our people have been making more resolute efforts to overthrow it.

Although the US aggressors have done everything to conceal their new military reverses, the war protest of the American people and anti-war sentiment US troops in South Viet Nam have been growing, which has added to the US ruling circles' difficulties.

The US aggressors want to use the Paris Conference on Viet Nam as a screen for their double game. They have protested their "respect for the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination", their 'readiness' to keep wide open the door to peace, etc. But the whole world has seen their hypocrisy, and is indignantly insisting that they put an end to their violence and withdraw all their troops from South Viet Nam.

In addition to the staggering blows they received in the first half of this year, Nixon and Co. are faced with new uncompoundable differences: among various American monopolist groupings, between the ruling circles and the American people, between the US and the puppets, and between the US and its satellites.»

The communique went on:

"The great all-round successes recorded in the first six months of this year have enhanced our people and armed forces' confidence in their certain victory, and their determination to fight till complete victory. At the same time, they have further raised our prestige and position at home and abroad, further split the enemy ranks and won more sympathy and support from the peoples and governments of any countries in the world, including the American people.

In all its history, never has our country performed more marvellous feats of arms as now, nor our people's traditional heroism bloomed so magnificently as now.

The fiercer our struggle, the closer the unity of our people whether in the North or in the South, who will rush forward to fulfil sacred duty to their Fatherland. The more bombs and shells the enemy pours on us, the stronger our people's determination to fight US aggression and save the country.

Even in areas still under the enemy's control, our people have heightened their revolutionary consciousness. In growing numbers, they have taken the side of the revolution. Many men of the puppet army and administration, awakened to the sense of justice and revolution, have become disgusted with the US — puppets' rotten regime. Many have gone over to the people.

Overseas Vietnamese, too, are turning their thoughts to the Fatherland, and following with keen interest the successes of their compatriots at home. They are doing all they can to contribute to the nation's final victory.

In the world at large never has Viet Nam command so much attention and never has she received so vigorous support.

All this has engendered for us a new position, a new military posture, a new international status, which are likely to lend more brilliance, to our future achievements.

The past six months, obviously, have marked an important, steady, all-round advance, and a rapid development of our armed forces and people now nearing the fundamental objectives of their revolution.".

PLAF in hot pursuit of the enemy

A DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL POWER

THE SVN LIBERATED ZONE AND REVOLUTIONARY POWER TAKE SHAPE IN THE COURSE OF THE SVN PEOPLE'S SUCCESSFUL ANTI-US RESISTANCE.

TWENTY four years ago the overthrow of the fascist, colonialist and feudal rule and the August Revolution heralded the emergence of Viet Nam revolutionary power, and thus an age-old dream of the Vietnamese people came true.

For the last fifteen years, the USA has been carrying out an intervention and aggression in SVN, in an attempt to turn it into a neo-colony and to perpetuate the partition of VN. It has been breaking the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, illegally installing there an utterly ruthless regime at its beck and call, in an effort to wipe out all gains of the August Revolution and all traces of revolutionary power.

It has committed over half a million US expeditionary troops and mercenaries from US satellites and over half a million puppet soldiers to the most atrocious war of aggression in history. It has been challenging the Viet Nam people's sacred national rights and accumulating crimes of the darkest dye against the South Vietnamese.

In continuation of their tradition as an indomitable nation possessed of a 4,000-year old history of combat against foreign aggression coupled with national construction, and as a sequel to the nearly 100-year anti-colonialist struggle of the Viet Nam people as a whole the South Vietnamese rose up, millions inspired with a single purpose, to recover independence, freedom and peace. In their stubborn fight organized and led by the SVN NFL and fearless of all hardships and sacrifices, nothing succeeds like success.

In the course of their victorious struggle, the SVN liberated areas and revolutionary power have been shaping up, expanding and consolidating. This has been an objective development called for by the needs of the resistance and the interests and aspirations of the people.

Basic structures of revolutionary power like revolutionary mass organizations, various bodies in charge of military affairs, security, economy, finance, information, culture, education, health, social welfare etc... were set up and put into operation. In the light of the Front's lines and policies, village self-management committees elected by the people successively emerged and in cooperation with the Front's Committees and Peasant's associations of the corresponding level assumed official functions, impelled the resistance forward, built up, reinforced and defended the countryside and looked after the people's well-being. In those places, power belonged to the people who were in a position to exercise their right as masters of their own fate.

Since early 1968, as a result of the electrifying waves of widespread offensives and uprisings, a further expansion and strengthening of the free zone and its revolutionary power has been brought about. To translate into reality the Front Central Committee's "Shatter enemy rule, regain power for the people" watchword people's revolutionary committees have been established at village, district and provincial levels, in the universal exultation caused by combat successes.

Such achievements would be unthinkable if it were not for the South Vietnamese people and armed forces' increasing military gains. Reversely the latter cannot be separated from the former. And the former as well as the latter would not have been possible without popular unqualified confidence in the Front, widespread support for it, universal approval and strict implementation of its political program. In the fulfilment of its historic mission as rallying, organizing and leading force, the Front has discharged its state responsibilities with distinction, and proved itself to be the genuine and legal representative of the SVN people.

THE PRG OF THE REPUBLIC OF SVN, GENUINE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SVN PEOPLE.

RECENTLY, a SVN People's Congress decided to set up the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of SVN and of an Advisory Council to the said Government. Such a step was prompted by the new juncture, the unbending will for independence and freedom of the South Viet Nam people, the most cherished aspirations of the people from all walks of life. It will make it possible for all patriotic forces to take their share of revolutionary power, expand and increase the people's right as masters of the land, bring to completion the network of revolutionary power erected in the greatest part of SVN, turn to full account the successes already gained and march toward total triumph.

The establishment at this moment of the South Viet Nam PRG invested with the most centralized and highest powers represents a tremendous achievement for the South Viet Nam people. It is an inevitable sequel to the emergence of revolutionary power and the most concentrated and forceful expression of the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination and resolve to exercise their sacred national rights.

The coming into being and objectives of the PRG are consistent with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and the norms of modern international law which respect and preserve the peoples' national and self-determination rights and oppose outside aggression against, and intervention in the affairs of, other countries.

As far as its origin, structure and goals are concerned, the PRG's genuinely democratic character is left in no doubt. This is brought out in bolder relief by the resolution of the June 8, 1969 Congress which provides for the eventual enlargement of its composition and creation of additional departments for representatives of groupings in the population not in a position as yet to partake in the management of State affairs, and by the new Government's June 10, 1969, 12-point program of action.

With the said development, revolutionary power in South Viet Nam has become a full-fledged truly effective one because of its broad and firm bases and is in control of the greatest part of South Viet Nam territory, whose area and population keep growing in the countryside, mountains and towns. Its bases are broad for it has been set up in almost all South Viet Nam plains, and mountains including ethnic minority areas like Tay Nguyen, Tra Vinh, Soc Trang, or religious sectors like Tay Ninh, An Giang. Even in disputed and enemy-controlled zone, including cities, revolutionary committees have emerged. Up to June 30, 1969, 1200 villages, 140 districts, 32 provinces and 4 cities among which Saigon, have been placed under revolutionary rule. It is also broad because it has achieved and consolidated the national united Front which rallies people from all social segments in the anti-US resistance for national salvation.

It is firm because it has been set up from the grass-roots level, from the hamlets and villages through the districts and provinces to the centre by universal suffrage and by these qualifications for eligibility: good combat record, dedication to the people and confidence of the people.

Thus, in the new historical context, the PRG takes over from the NFL the management of State affairs, as genuine and legal representative of the SVN people. There is no wonder that within a few weeks of its birth, it has been recognized by tens of countries, has established diplomatic relation with many states, has been given support by dozens of national and international organizations including American bodies and by a host of public figures all over the world and in the US, and its President Architect Huynh Tan Phat has been received with all the honours due to a head of government, and awarded the highest Khmer order, by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The emergence of the PRG of the SVN Republic and its widespread warm reception again throws a lurid light on the unrepresentative and traitorous nature of the Saigon regime which, from the brutal Diem administration to the present corrupt and fire-eating Thieu-Ky-Huong triumvirate, owes its survival solely to US dollars, weapons and troops.

There is no doubt that with the unqualified confidence of the people and vigorous backing of the brother countries and progressives in the world, it will discharge honourably its historic mission.

LE BA

IN LIBERATED AREAS

Pharmacist Phuong Hung uses a make-shift method to prepare an antibiotic well known in Viet Nam as Subtilis

● At present, there are in Western South Viet Nam, 1945 general education schools of the 1st degree and 15 of the 2nd degree (including 100 schools of Khmer Nationals) run by 2523 teachers. They are actively helping 70,000 pupils get ready for the coming school-year.

● Preparing for the "Defeat US aggression" 1969-70 crop, the people of Western South Viet Nam are zealously working their fields, expanding the area under cultivation and increase the number of crops.

In Ca Mau the people have reclaimed and restored to culture nearly 20,000 hectares, and turned 9,500 hectares of one-crop land into two-crop land.

In Rach Gia, the peasants have worked out a plan to boast two-crop area to 13,000 hectares. An Bien district alone has put back 5,000 hectares under grain. Long My district (Can Tho province) has increased its cultivated land to 40,000 hectares (twice the usual acreage).

● At present, in every village in South Viet Nam liberated areas there are a Medical committee, a Medical station with 3 to 5 emergency beds, run by 3 or 8 medical workers. Some villages in Mo Cay district (Ben Tre province) boast of an assistant doctor.

In the disputed "hamlet strategic" and "strategic ward" areas, liberation medical stations have been set up to help the people.

Now, in South Viet Nam, for every 100,000 people there are 5 doctors, 15 assistant doctors and over 100 nurses and attendants.

THE WHOLE WORLD IS ALL OUR SIDE

A widespread movement of the world peoples to support Viet Nam's anti-US resistance has taken shape.

All progressive mankind has been shocked by medieval atrocities of the American expeditionary forces and puppet troops and their contemplated war escalations.

Therefore, to bolster up the bitter fight of the South Vietnamese against the chieftain of imperialist powers has become the sacred obligations of every people. This is the expression of the solidarity of mass organizations in every country toward our labouring people, as well as the duty of every progressive organization toward the national liberation movement, and one of the noblest tasks of every government maintaining relations with the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN.

With such a lofty motivation one of those manifestations is the "For Viet Nam" and "For the victory of the Vietnamese people" drives, and the international movement for support to our combat has made thick and fast developments with every passing year.

Since 1968, the international movement to back the Vietnamese people, which has made a substantial progress both in scope and depth, is marked by successive drives unfolding under varied and vivid forms.

These international movement concentrated on the demand that the United States withdraw unconditionally all their troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs according to the 10-point overall solution of the National Front for Liberation, and that the USA show a serious attitude at the Paris Conference.

The strong and valuable backing that the world peoples lend to ours, to the Liberation Front and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam make its impact particularly felt when the Front advanced its 10-point overall solution and the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government come into being respectively in May and June this year. They regard this solution as a positive initiative and an active contribution to a correct settlement of the South Vietnamese problem. They and progressive people in the USA demand that the American administration display a serious attitude to the NFL proposition and the righteous position of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government. More than twenty countries have recognized and established diplomatic relations with the RSVN while well over a dozen national and international organizations and millions of people have welcomed and voiced support for the Provisional Revolutionary Government.

UNDER the "For Viet Nam" slogan, the world movement in support of the South Vietnamese people has, in the recent period, very clearly upheld its initiative and yielded practical results. It has expanded to many more countries and regions of the globe and become a mass movement.

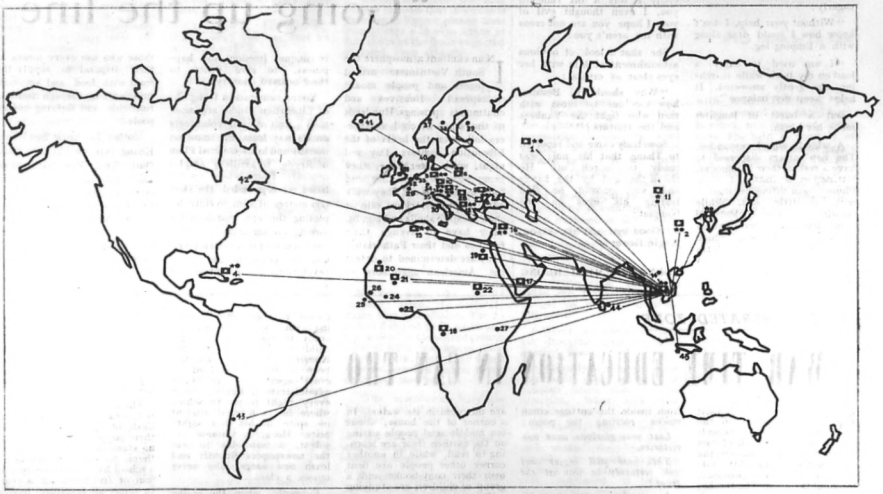
Drive after drive the American people have been grappling with Nixon and his associates who have betrayed their pledge to reestablish peace in Viet Nam and bring the GIs home. They have welcomed the formation of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government and expressed their support for it. In so doing they make their contribution to the movement of the world peoples backing our resistance until complete victory.

This movement is also linked with the struggle of people the world over for their own interests, for peace, democracy and social progress.

THE international movement to shore up the South Vietnamese people constitutes an important contribution to their fight for national salvation. Apart from the military and political gains, it has made possible our successes on the diplomatic plane.

We highly rate, attach great importance to and express sincere gratitude for this vigorous and steady support given us by people in every continent.

We call upon all peace-loving and progressive peoples in the world for still more vigorous backing for the struggle of the South Vietnamese people against US aggression, for national salvation, for the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, authentic and legal representative of the South Vietnamese people.



Countries which are entertaining friendly relations with the RSVN PRG and NFL

1 — USSR,
2 — PR of China,
3 — PDR of Korea,
4 — Cuba,
5 — GDR,
6 — Poland,
7 — Hungary,
8 — Bulgaria,
9 — Rumania,
10 — Czechoslovakia,
11 — Mongolia,
12 — Albania,
13 — Combodia,
14 — Laos,
15 — Algeria,
16 — Syria,
17 — South Yemen,
18 — Congo (B),
19 — UAR,
20 — Mauritania,
21 — Mali,
22 — Sudan,
23 — Ghana,
24 — Guinea,
25 — Cape Verde Island,
26 — Senegal,
27 — Tanzania,
28 — Yugoslavia,
29 — France,
30 — Italia,
31 — Great Britain,
32 — Belgium,
33 — Netherlands,
34 — Luxembourg,
35 — Switzerland
36 — Australia,
37 — Sweden,
38 — Norway,
39 — Finland,
40 — Denmark,
41 — Iceland,
42 — Canada,
43 — Chile,
44 — Ceylon,
45 — Indonesia,
46 — Cyprus.

KEYS :

■ — *Countries having recognized the PRG of the RSVN*
★ — *Countries where the PRG of the RSVN has established an embassy*
● — *Countries where PRG and NFL are developing diplomatic activities.*

SOUTH VIET NAM No 40
July 15, 1969
Published by the NFL Information Commission
Printed in SOUTH VIET NAM *Index* 12520